SENATE BILL NO. 221

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR CALLAHAN.

Read 1st time January 3, 2007, and ordered printed.

1098S.01I

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

AN ACT

To amend chapter 162, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to school district boundaries.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 162, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new 2 section, to be known as section 162.432, to read as follows:

162.432. 1. For the purpose of this section only:

- 2 (1) The term "urban school district" shall mean a school district
 3 with an average daily attendance of at least thirty thousand students
 4 containing most or all of a home rule city with more than four hundred
 5 thousand inhabitants and located in more than one county; and
- 6 (2) The term "seven-director school district" shall mean a school
 7 district with an average daily attendance of at least ten thousand five
 8 hundred students and containing the majority of any home rule city
 9 with more than one hundred thirteen thousand two hundred but fewer
 10 than one hundred thirteen thousand three hundred inhabitants.
- 11 2. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, qualified voters who reside in an urban school district and also in any 12home rule city with more than one hundred thirteen thousand two 13 hundred but fewer than one hundred thirteen thousand three hundred 15 inhabitants and in any city of the fourth classification with more than three thousand eight hundred but fewer than four thousand inhabitants 16 17and located in more than one county may petition the seven-district school district to annex the territory of such urban school district that 18 is located in any such home rule city and any such city of the fourth 20 classification to the adjoining seven-director school district. The annexation and change in school boundaries shall conform to the city

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22boundary lines in which the voters reside and the boundary lines of the 23 adjoining seven-director school district.

- 3. Ten percent of the number of voters who voted in the last annual school board election and who reside in an urban school district and also in any home rule city with more than one hundred thirteen thousand two hundred but fewer than one hundred thirteen thousand three hundred inhabitants and in any city of the fourth classification with more than three thousand eight hundred but fewer than four thousand inhabitants and located in more than one county may petition the adjoining seven-director school district for annexation to that district and a change of school boundaries. The petition for annexation and boundary change shall define adequately the physical territory to be annexed.
- 4. Upon the submission of the petition to the adjoining sevendistrict school district and the acceptance thereof, an election shall be 36 held in the territory petitioned for annexation and boundary change. The election shall be held within one year of submission to the 3839 adjoining seven-district school district. The question may be submitted on the general municipal election date, the primary election date, or 40 the general election date. The question shall be submitted in substantially the following form:

43 Shall the (insert territory to be annexed) portion of the 44 (insert name of school district) school district be annexed to the (insert name of school district) school district? 45

46 \square YES \square NO

The department of elementary and secondary education shall incur the proportionate share of the costs of the election pertaining to the annexation and boundary change question. The voters in the territory subject to annexation and school boundary change shall decide the question by a majority vote of those who vote upon the question. If a majority of voters are in favor of the annexation and boundary change, the provisions of subsection 5 of this section shall be followed. If a majority of the voters are opposed to the annexation and boundary change, then no annexation or boundary change shall occur unless a majority of the voters once again submit the question for approval.

5. Upon approval by the voters as specified in subsection 4 of this section, the question shall be presented to the adjoining seven-58

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director school district board, which shall have ninety days to act upon 59 60 the question. A majority vote by the seven-director school board shall be required to accept the petition for annexation and a change of 61 school boundaries. If a majority of the board votes in favor of the 62 question, an election shall be held within one year in the territory of 63 the seven-director school district. The secretary of the seven-director 64 school district board shall notify the secretary of the board of the 65 urban school district of the acceptance of the petition and the date of the election. The question may be submitted on the general municipal 67 election date, the primary election date, or the general election 68 date. The question shall be submitted in substantially the following 69 70 form:

Shall the (insert territory to be annexed) portion of the (insert name of school district) school district be annexed to the (insert name of school district) school district effective the day of?

 $75 \qquad \Box \text{ YES} \qquad \Box \text{ NO}$

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The department of elementary and secondary education shall incur the proportionate share of the costs of the election pertaining to the annexation and boundary change question. The voters in the territory of the seven-director school district shall decide the question by a majority vote of those who vote upon the question. If assent to the annexation and boundary change is given by the voters of the seven-director school district, the annexation and boundary change shall go into effect the subsequent fifteenth day of June, at which time the school tax property levy in the annexed territory shall be set at the same rate as the school tax levy in the annexing seven-director school district.

- 6. The apportionment of property, except for school buildings as provided in subsection 7 of this section, shall be governed by sections 162.031 and 162.041. The annexing seven-director school district, upon the annexation of the territory from the urban school district, shall possess the discretion to apportion the school property and facilities in the annexed territory that are necessary to serve the educational needs of the residents in the annexed territory.
- 7. Upon annexation, the urban school district shall transfer any applicable title to all buildings of the school district located in the

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territory annexed to the seven-director school district. Should the urban school district refuse to transfer any applicable title to the buildings to the seven-director school district, the urban school district shall pay the tuition of and provide transportation for each pupil resident therein who attends an accredited school in another district of the same or an adjoining county. The rate of tuition to be charged by the district attended and paid by the sending district is the per 102pupil cost of maintaining the district's grade level grouping, which includes the school attended. The cost of maintaining a grade level grouping shall be determined by the board of education of the district, but in no case shall it exceed all amounts spent for teachers' wages, incidental purposes, debt service, maintenance, and replacements. The term "debt service", as used in this section, means expenditures for the retirement of bonded indebtedness and expenditures for interest on bonded indebtedness. Per pupil cost of the grade level grouping shall be determined by dividing the cost of maintaining the grade level grouping by the average daily pupil attendance. If there is disagreement as to the amount of tuition to be paid, the facts shall be submitted to the state board of education, and its decision in the matter shall be final. Subject to the limitations of this section, each pupil shall be free to attend the public school of his or her choice.

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